Brexit, Migration Crisis and Sustainability of Integration in European Union

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ABSTRACT: Over the years, the European Union has stood has a unique representation of cooperation and integration. It was built through a series of binding treaties and has the characteristics of both a supranational and inter-governmental organisation. The Union has at the same time, harmonize laws and adopt common policies whereby member states share a customs union, single market, a common trade policy, a common agricultural policy and a common currency (the Euro). However, the union in recent time have been challenged with range of political and economic pressures which raises questions about the sustainability of integration in the region. The paper then adopted a qualitative research design making use of the descriptive method. It relied mainly on secondary sources of information and adopted content analysis in the analysis of data collected. The paper was also anchored on the functionalist theory which helps to understand where the problems lies with the European system. The paper then found out that the inability of the union to however confront new challenges like the influx of migrants into Europe and the proposed exit of Britain from the Union (Brexit), threats to citizens safety to mention a few proves that European policies are becoming dysfunctional. Not only in terms of implementation of possibilities in concrete situations but also in relation to the fundamental values of the Union which is Integration. The paper then suggest a political union and improved policies to confront the challenges which threatens integration in the region.

KEYWORDS: Border, Brexit, Integration, Migration.

I. INTRODUCTION

The European Union (EU) is a political and economic organisation that represents a unique form of cooperation and integration among her sovereign member states. The Union traces its origin to the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) and the European Economic Community (EEC), established respectively by the Treaty of Paris 1951 and Treaty of Rome 1957 (Maclean, 2015). Its founders hoped that by pooling sovereignty in certain sectors (primarily economic ones at first); integration would foster inter-dependence and make war in Europe ugly and unthinkable. The EU currently consists of 28 member states, including most of the former communist countries of Central and Eastern Europe. It has been built through a series of binding treaties and has characteristics of both a Supranational entity in specified areas, sovereignty is shared and European Union institutions hold executive authority and an Inter-governmental organization in other areas, cooperation is based on consensus among the member state governments.

Over the years, member states have sought to harmonize laws and adopt common policies on an increasing number of issues, European Union members share a customs union; a single market in which goods, services, people and capital move freely (popularly known as the "four freedoms"); a common trade policy; a common agricultural policy; and a common currency (the Euro), which is used by 19 member states (collectively referred to as the "Eurozone") (Congressional Research Service, 2018). Twenty-two European Union member states and four non-European Union countries participate in the Schengen area of free movement, which allows individuals to travel without passport checks. Also, the European Union has taken steps to develop common foreign and security policies and has sought to build common internal security measures. This integration project has been compared to a bicycle which must keep going forward to avoid falling over by European policy makers.

However, against the above, the European Union have been challenged with a range of Political and Economic pressures including successful populist, anti-establishment political member in many European Union countries and multiple internal and external challenges which have raised questions about the European Union future and integration at large (Congressional Research Service, 2018). Of recent, various events like Britain exit from the European Union which is otherwise known as Brexit, Eurozone crisis and various economic, security crisis, migration and refugee issues have questioned the integration of the European Union. While some

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analysts have argued that European Union is strongly integrated, without doubt, others have insisted that it suffers from an integration deficit (Majone, 2009; Hix, 2008; Follesdal, 2006 and Mair 2006). The immigration and refugee crisis especially have generated intense opposition from many European Union states towards some certain actions taken by the European Union in solving the crisis. These immigration and refugee crisis are also one of the main reasons the United Kingdom majority (51.9%) voted on the 23rd of June 2016 for Britain exit from the European Union (Brexit) in the first instance.

The inflow of migrants and refugees is not a new phenomenon to Europe as people frequently arrived the European shores for different reasons and through different means and channels. They look for legal ways to reside in the region, risk their lives to escape from political oppression, war and poverty, as well as reunite with their family and benefit from entrepreneurship and education. However, in 2015 and 2016, the European Union experienced an unprecedented influx of refugees and migrants. More than 1 million people arrived in Europe, most of them fleeing from war and terror in Syria and other countries. This phenomenon has had several negative impacts such as institutional changes, migration, euro crisis, insecurity, Brexit to mention a few on many European Union member states in areas of security, economy, boundaries to mention a few and demands a significant and strategic response from the European Union (The European Commission, 2017). The above stated problems pose questions to the integration in the European Union.

The inability of the European Union to however face new challenges like the influx of migrants into Europe, threats to citizens safety for instance pose more pressure on Europe's economy and by so doing, insecurity, unemployment set in. These then proves that European Public Policies, primarily migration, asylum policies, economic policies, security policies to mention but a few are becoming completely dysfunctional not only in terms of implementation of possibilities in concrete situations but also in relation to the fundamental values of the European Union which is integration. To this end, the paper examines European Union and the attending challenges of Brexit and migration crisis in sustaining integration among member states.

Statement of the Problem

The European Union over time has been known as the best model of integration, this is as a result of their common market border and currency which integrate member states in the region. According to Iwona (2016), various problems like the migrants increase from middle-east and Africa, security crisis, financial and resource incapabilities to mention but a few put enormous strain on the EU's visa free Schengen zone and gives room for different national interests which threatens the integration in the region. In the same vein, the European Union have struggled to find and create comprehensive policy aimed at addressing the mounting humanitarian crisis due to the conflicting national interests and internal security concerns. This has prompted the United Kingdom for example, to vote on leaving the European Union. In the same vein, many European Union member states like Italy, Greece have created their own policies aimed at solving the various challenges being encountered by them.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

European Union as a Regional Organization

The European Union (EU) is a political and economic community of twenty-seven member states with supranational and intergovernmental features, located primarily in Europe, established by the Maastricht Treaty on European Union. The European Union is the most powerful international organization so far in history, in some ways resembling a state; some legal scholars believe that it should not be considered as an international organization at all, but rather as a 'sui generis entity' which in law means of its own kind or unique (Council of the European Union & European Commission, 2000). The political environment after the end of World War II favored unity in Western Europe, seen by many as an escape from the extreme forms of nationalism which had devastated the continent. One of the first successful proposals for European cooperation came in 1951 with the European Coal and Steel Community (European Commission, 2002). This had the aim of bringing together control of the coal and steel industries of its member states, principally France and West Germany. This was with the aim that war between them would not then be possible, as coal and steel were the principal resources for waging war. The Community's founders declared it "a first step in the federation of Europe" (as declared in the Schuman's declaration of 9th May, 1950) (European Union, 2017). The other founding members were Italy, and the three Benelux countries Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg (European Commission, 1995). Two additional communities were created in 1957: the European Economic Community (EEC) establishing a customs union, and the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) for cooperation in developing nuclear energy. In 1967 the Merger Treaty created a single set of institutions for the three communities, which were collectively referred to as the European Communities (European Commission, 1995).

In 1973 the European Communities enlarged to include Denmark, the Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom. Norway had negotiated to join at the same time but a referendum rejected membership and so it remained outside. Greece, Spain, and Portugal joined in the 1980s. In 1985, the Schengen Agreement created

largely open borders without passport controls between those states joining it. In 1986 the European flag was adopted by the Communities and leaders signed the Single European Act. This revised the way community decision making operated in light of its greater membership, aimed to further reduce trade barriers and introduce greater European Political Cooperation (Risse, 2015). In 1990 after the fall of the Iron Curtain, former East Germany became member of the community as member of a newly reunited Germany. With enlargement toward eastern Europe on the agenda, the Copenhagen criteria for candidate members to join the European Union were agreed (Risse, 2010).

The Maastricht Treaty came into force on 1 November 1993. Maastricht established a revised structure and the name 'European Community' officially replaced the earlier 'European Communities'. The European Community now formed one of three pillars of the new European Union, which included co-operation in matters of foreign policy and home affairs. The term European Uniongenerally replaced the term European Community, which was abolished by the Treaty of Lisbon along with the pillar system (Polk, 2017). In practice, the European Community is simply the old name for the European Union. The European Community is one of three European international organizations, the European Coal and Steel Community and the European Atomic Energy Community. These three organizations used to have separate institutions; but in 1961 they were merged, though legally speaking they are still separate organizations (European Commission, 2009).

Austria, Sweden, and Finland joined in 1995. The Amsterdam Treaty in 1997 amended the Maastricht treaty in areas such as democracy and foreign policy. Amsterdam was followed by the Treaty of Nice in 2001, which revised the Rome and Maastricht treaties to allow the EU to cope with further enlargement to the east (Council of the European Union & European Commission, 2008). In 2002 euro notes and coins replaced national currencies in 12 of the member states. In 2004 ten new countries, eight of which had formerly been Eastern Bloc countries, joined the EU. At the start of 2007, Romania and Bulgaria joined the EU and the euro was adopted by Slovenia. On 1st January 2008, Malta and Cyprus joined the Eurozone (European Commission, 2009). A treaty establishing a constitution for the EU was signed in Rome in 2004, intended to replace all previous treaties with a new single document. However, it never completed ratification after rejection by French and Dutch voters in referenda. In 2007, it was agreed to replace that proposal with a new Reform Treaty that would amend rather than replace the existing treaties. This treaty was signed on 13 December 2007 in Lisbon and was known as the Lisbon treaty. It then came into effect January 2009 (European Commission, 2010).

The EU creates a single market by a system of laws which apply in all member states, guaranteeing the freedom of movement of people, goods, services, and capital. It maintains a common trade policy, agricultural and fisheries policies, and regional development policy. In 1999 the EU introduced a common currency, the euro, which has been adopted by fifteen member states. It has also developed a role in foreign policy, and justice and home affairs. Also, Passport control between many member states has been abolished under the Schengen Agreement (European Parliament, 2008).

There several policies that bound the European Union together. These main policies include:

- Free trade of goods and services among member states.
- A common external customs tariff and a common position in international trade negotiations.
- Removal of border controls between its member states but excluding the UK and Ireland, which have derogations
- Freedom for citizens of its member states to live and work anywhere within the EU, provided they can support themselves
- Freedom for its citizens to vote in local government and European Parliament elections in any member state
- Free movement of capital between member states
- Organization of government regulations, corporations' law, and trademark registrations
- A single currency, the Euro but excluding the UK, Sweden, and Denmark, which have derogations
- Common agricultural and fisheries policies.
- co-operation in criminal matters, including sharing of intelligence through EUROPOL and the Schengen Information System, agreement on a common definition of criminal offenses and expedited extradition procedures
- a common foreign policy
- a common security policy, including the creation of a 60,000-member Rapid Reaction Force for peacekeeping purposes, an EU military staff, and an EU satellite center for intelligence purposes
- a common policy on asylum and immigration
- a common system of indirect taxation, the VAT, as well as common customs duties and removes on various products
- funding for the development of disadvantaged regions which includes structural and cohesion funds
- funding for programs in candidate countries and other Eastern European countries, as well as aid to many developing countries
- funding for research (European Commission, 2013).

Generally speaking, European Union policies are divided into three main areas which are known as the pillars. The first pillar is concern with economic, social and environmental policies.The second pillar is concern with foreign policy and military matters. The third pillar concerns co-operation in the fight against crime (Mizanie& Alemayehu, 2009). Within each pillar, a different balance is struck between the supranational and intergovernmental principles. Supranationalism is strongest in the first pillar, while the other two pillars function along more intergovernmental lines. In the second and third pillars, the powers of the Parliament, Commission and European Court of Justice concerning the Council are significantly limited, without however being altogether removed (Karl & Abdul, 2017). Institutions of the EU include the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union, the European Council, the European Court of Justice and the European Central Bank.

The European Union is composed of 27 independent sovereign countries which are known as member states: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. Four Western European countries that have chosen not to join the EU have been memberly integrated into the EU's economy; Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway are a member of the single market through the European Economic Area, and Switzerland has similar ties through bilateral treaties. The microstates' relationships include use of the euro and other co-operation (Mizanie& Alemayehu, 2009). There are three official applicant countries, Croatia, Macedonia and Turkey; the western Balkan countries of Albania, Bosnia, and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia are officially recognized as potential applicants. To join the EU, a country must meet the Copenhagen criteria, defined at the 1993 Copenhagen European Council (European Commission, 2010). These require a stable democracy which respects human rights and the rule of law; a functioning market economy capable of competition within the EU; and the acceptance of the obligations of membership, including EU law. Evaluation of a country's fulfillment of the criteria is the responsibility of the European Council (Mizanie& Alemayehu, 2009).

Literature Review on Brexit Crisis and European Integration

The choice of Tony Blair's government from 2003 to allow full freedom of development to the residents of ten new Member States is at the foundation of things to come and the choice of Britons to cast a ballot to leave the EU. A very high inflow of workers into the UK and its noteworthy effect on the representative's compensation level was a significant issue (Somai and Biedermann, 2016). Furthermore, Merkel's choice from 2015 to the open borders for 1 million immigrants from Africa and the Middle East countries was likewise affected by the consequences of the referendum (Hunt& Wheeler, 2016). Developing Euroscepticism in the UK and the British sway is said to be the explanation for the UK's new way to deal with the regional integration (Gifford, 2016).

Great Britain's membership in the European Union

During the post-war period, Great Britain effectively joined forces with West European countries. In Zurich in 1946 Winston Churchill proposed framing the United States of Europe. England was effectively engaged with the reconstructing of European economies after their demolition during the war. Great Britain was one of the founders of the Organization for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC) and the fundamental recipient of the Marshall Plan. Nonetheless, during the 1950s, Great Britain indicated a doubtful frame of mind towards the integration forms in Europe in light of a government integration model advanced by France. Extra British questions were raised by making a customs union and the presentation of a common customs duty for products from outside the community due to Britain's solid economic connections with other Commonwealth countries. Almost 75% of British trade was conducted inside the Commonwealth (Childs, 2001). Additionally, the British individuals kept up a solid sentiment of prevalence over different countries, as leaders of the Empire where the sun never sets, encompassing a one-fourth of the world populace (Greenleaf, 1983).

Another contention against GB membership of any of the European Communities was its hesitance towards political commitment, specifically the concept of shaping a European Defense Community and a European Political Community. In 1960, Great Britain together with Austria, Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland, Portugal, and Norway framed the European Free Trade Association. During the 1960s these countries recorded lower economic development (2.0%) compared with the Member States of the EEC (6.5%). The British empire was likewise slowly self-destructing (Kitzinger, 1973). Because of these reasons, on 22 July 1961, Prime Minister Harold Macmillan applied for Britain to join the European Communities. Nonetheless, in July 1963 Charles de Gaulle, the leader of France, vetoed the movement which kept GB from joining.

Great Britain joining the European Communities on the first of January 1973, was a troublesome accomplice and radical. 1974 saw the principal exchanges of Britain's conditions of membership in the EEC. Among the requests seeing issues, for example, the financing of the Communities or extra help for British farming, there were clear calls straightforwardly testing the acknowledged integration model and the

unreasonable impedance of European establishments in the economies of the Member States. These dispositions were settled on clear by Britain's absence of understanding concerning the harmonization of VAT and demanding that the economic approach ought to be executed at the national level. In a referendum on the fifth June 1975, British voters cast their voting forms on whether to continue their membership in the EEC. The same number of 67% were supportive of staying in the Communities (Butler and Kitzinger, 1976).

Another case of the absence of acknowledgment of the developing integration was Britain's refusal to join the European Monetary System in 1979. The unmistakably negative mentality towards Union approaches was communicated by the Prime Minister at the time, Margaret Thatcher, who in her discourse in Bruges in 1988 said that the EEC is a super-state practicing another predominance from Brussels. She likewise blamed EU legislators for over-protectionism and arranged a concession for Britain. Comparable perspectives were communicated by Prime Minister Tony Blair in 2001. He stressed that the establishment of Europe ought to be made of solid sovereign countries. He requested changes be made to the spending of the Union spending plan through the decrease of spending on a common horticultural strategy and an expansion in spending on look into, new advancements and the production of new openings.

Euroscepticism and European Integration

Euroscepticism is developing inside the EU. In 2016 just 33% of Europeans confided in the EU, with 27% contrarily slanted towards it. By comparison, in 2006, half of Europeans had an inspirational disposition towards it and 15% were negative. Over a similar period, trust towards the EU in Britain dropped from 36% to 20% (VoxEurop, 2017). The explanations behind such a situation can be credited to, initially, the absence of dependability inside the EU as reflected in the economic crisis (2008), the democratic crisis, the crisis inside the EU establishments and the vagrant crisis. Secondly, Euroscepticism is the consequence of the crisis in regards to the concept of the European venture with member states battling for changes to the present integration model (Craig, 2014). The verification on the side of these propositions is the discourse made by David Cameron in London on the 23rd January 2013 in which he seriously reprimanded the condition of the EU, indicating the institutional and practical crisis of the European Union which confirm itself in the emergence of the democratic legitimacy of Union establishments, the Euro zone crisis, a drop in the competitiveness of the European economy and an absence of a proper EU reaction to its inward issues (Euronews, 2015).

Moreover, Cameron expressed that the Union does not have a suitable reaction to the progression's happenings, which debilitates its situations. Accordingly, he indicated the need for expanding the EU's competitiveness, improving the adaptability of its activities and making a system of economic connections. He likewise requested the expansion in power of Member States through the fortifying of the job of national parliaments and the repatriation of specific competencies from EU to national level. Furthermore, the bid for fair and equivalent treatment of the Member States and a conclusion to the oppression countries outside the Eurozone. At long last, he reported that a referendum would be held in Britain in regards to its continuation inside the EU (Emerson, 2013).

On the eighteenth and nineteenth February 2016, Great Britain renegotiated its EU membership conditions. The primary concerns concerned, expanded power for Great Britain, expanded accentuation on the rule of subsidiarity, the avoidance of Britain from the rule of a nearer and nearer union, the fortifying of the job of national parliaments which are qualified for square Union laws. The referendum was completed on the 23rd of June 2016. The turnout was high at 72.2% of those qualified for vote. Most Britons, that is 51.9% decided to leave the EU while 48.1% needed to remain (Craig, 2016; Hunt and Wheeler, 2016; Somai and Biedermann, 2016). Most Europeans were amazed by the outcome of the referendum, anticipating that the outcome should be an admonition to the Union elites that will cause changes in the standards of the European venture and trigger arrangements that will overcome the Union's institutional and utilitarian emergencies (Davies, 2016; Wintour, 2016).

The above literature shows that resulting correction of EU bargains have not at last settled the issue of the integration model. The crossover model makes it difficult to accomplish consensus on numerous basic issues that go about as a wellspring of conflict inside the union. Multi-speed Europe has now become a reality and the division of the European Union is perpetual. The half and half model of integration that has developed since the 1950s out of the government and confederal models shows that the developing crisis inside the EU can't be overcome; it is a lasting procedure and any potential arrangements will only constitute stopgap measures tending to current issues brought about by outside or inward factors. The European integration, nonetheless, is and has consistently been a political construct. Consequently, as long as there is sufficient help for the task and political will, the procedure of European integration will continue.

Theoretical Framework
For the purpose of analytical systematization, the use of a theoretical framework is germane in this paper. Hence, the Functionalism theory will be adopted.

Functionalism Theory

The functionalist point of view is one of the major theoretical viewpoints in sociology. It has its starting points in progress of Emile Durkheim, who was particularly keen on how social request is conceivable or how society remains generally steady. Accordingly, it is a theory that spotlights more on full scale level of social structure than the miniaturized scale level of regular day to day existence. Outstanding scholars of this theory additionally include Talcott Parsons, Herbert Spencer and Robert Merton. The theory translates each member of the society as far as how it adds to the soundness of the entire society. That is each member of the society is utilitarian for the security of the entirety. Durkheim really imagined society as a life form and simply like inside a creature, every segment has a fundamental influence, however none can work alone.

This theory grew largely in international relations after the outbreak of World War II, which raised concerns that the state had become moribund as an institution for the social organization (Diego, 2006; Ogbonna et al, 2013). Functionalism's approach was against power-politics and state-centeredness in international relations. Its position is that power-politics and state-centeredness lead to conflicts and wars in the international system as states battle to achieve their varied and competing national interests while also defending and protecting their sovereignty. Functionalism is, therefore, a theory that seeks conditions that promote peace and prevent disharmony among states. David Mitrany's (1943), A Working Peace System: An Argument for the Functional Development of International Organization is an influential work in the tradition of functionalism(Ayinde 2011).

Functionalism affirms that war is a universal problem that affects people and, as such, the need for world peace is shared by everyone. This need then provides a general basis for international understanding and cooperation in functional spheres of activities which do not encroach on individual state sovereignty (Gilpin, 2001). The theory believes that through a system of functional cooperation, people are brought together and a sort of community feeling is generated and sustained (Ayinde, 2011; Mitrany, 1943; Gilpin, 2001). Functionalism significantly explains the role of international organizations rather than national governments in addressing common problems and providing for human welfare and basic requirements such as transportation, health and welfare necessities, trade and production (Rosamond, 2000; Ayinde, 2011). These responsibilities, the functionalist notion argues, are better handled by technical experts in different structures of international organizations.

The functionalist proposition thus provides a straight-forward explanation based on international cooperation and the evolutionary nature of the development of international organizations. Functionalism enlightens researchers about the reasons why sovereign states, of their own volition, work together and how this cooperation progresses. Hence, functionalism views that international institutions are not complete in themselves and that they are not without weaknesses, but rather they should be seen as vehicles through which human needs could be met. As such, these organizations have to amend their activities following the needs of the day.

As an integration theory, functionalism sees international cooperation to be the first stage in the integration process. Its argument is predicated on an incremental approach to integration that is embedded in the common conviction or needs by people to pool their efforts to achieve a common objective (Rosamond, 2000; Ogbeide, 2010). The logic of the theory is that cooperation and interdependence among states grow as these states integrate into restricted non-political areas whether technical or economic. The benefits which functional agencies deliver would draw the loyalty of the populations and motivate participation in the area of integration.

Functionalism has been employed to explain how regional organizations like the European Union which developed from the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC). It is also a useful theory to analyze the processes of Europe regional economic cooperation and integration which started firmly with the establishment of the EU in 2002. In some ways, functionalism could explain the circumstances which prevailed before the establishment of the EU; that is, the felt need for European countries to cooperate. It could describe the functioning of the different organs and institutions of the organization; the roles and functions performed by the EU; the achievements and failures of the organization; and the rationale for the process of transformation from the ECSC to the European Union. Wapmuk (2009) notes, for instance, that the establishment of EU was based on the functionalist ideal, and as a result, its Charter respected the sovereignty of independent European states. It is possible that some of the founders of the EU were attracted by this school of thought since it does not interrogate the sovereignty ofstates.

To this end, Wapmuk (2009:652) asserts that "although the European states were not as committed as they should be to the EU, they could not disregard the organization either." Through the forums provided by the EU, European countries were able to present a common front in the international community. Notwithstanding, functionalism could be questioned concerning Europe's quest for regional economic integration considering the political imperatives which come into play in realizing key integration objectives.

Another area of contention relates to the gains and benefits of international cooperation. Functionalism argues that it is less likely that countries would go to war when they are involved in doing things together. Although this assertion renders functionalism a valuable theory of integration, it does represent the case in

Europe as regional integration arrangements in Europe experience stability but until recently, different interstate conflicts are rising. Functionalism is criticized because of its apolitical approach to issues; the areas of cooperation explored by functionalism are not value-free and require aspects of policymaking (Ayinde, 2011). The view of Chen (2011:2) underscores that: "functionalism overstated a one-way impact of the economy on politics and therefore it cannot give people a convincing explanation of integration." Furthermore, the technical cooperation proposed by functionalists "represents a small component of the transactions that take place between European countries" (Ogbonna et. al., 2013:105; Ayinde, 2011:186). Europe is yet to strengthen its policy and institutional frameworks to confront the challenges of her regional integration. These challenges continue to affect regional economic integration projects in Europe and many scholars question how the European Union-led integration framework responds to such problems.

III. METHODOLOGY

This section seeks to identify the methodology to be used for study which will be structured towards generating data to evaluate the challenges of integration in the European Union. The data generated from this research will provide a solid foundation for results, conclusions and recommendations. Furthermore, this section will include the research design, methods of data collection, sources of data collection, method of data analysis and ethical consideration.

Research Design

Phenomenological qualitative research design is considered appropriate for this research due to the social nature of the study. It allows for the examination of the phenomenon in-depth, using various kinds of evidence obtained from interviews and analysis of documents. Padill-Diaz (2015), posits that the phenomenological qualitative research design is used to describe how human beings experience a certain phenomenon. Its main purpose is to bring to light specific experiences from human perspectives based on the paradigm of personal knowledge. Therefore, the position of Padilla-Diaz (2015), informed the choice of the research design.

A qualitative design which is descriptive and inductive will be adopted for this study to examine the phenomenon under study. It will also allow the study to examine the root cause of integration challenges in the European Union.

Methods of Data Collection

In the collection of data, the researcher will make use of the documentary review and interview to elicit information from the respondents. For this research, an in-depth interview will be adopted. The interviews sessions will be audio-taped and additional notes will be taken where necessary. The audio-taped recordings will be transcribed by the researcher after each interview. Because we have various positions on the subject matter of this study where some are against, for and others sitting on the fence, interviews will be conducted with 3 members of the European Commission, 3 Immigration Officers, 3 academics and experts in the field of international relations. The interview guide will be made up of five sections as each section will contain the research questions and other questions related to each research question raised.

Sources of Data Collection

Data for the purpose of this study will be obtained from a primary source and secondary source. The primary source, in-depth interview will be conducted with 3 members of the European Commission, 3 Immigration Officers, 3 academics and experts in the field of international relations. This is so because, we have 3 basic positions on the subject matter where some are against, for and others sitting on the fence. Secondary source will be obtained from journals, text books, articles, documents to mention a few.

Data Collection Instruments

The main data collection instrument in this research work will be the interview guide designed to generate membericipant perspectives, opinions, and experiences about integration challenges in the European Union. The report of the interview guide will play a significant role in the data collection process. Also, information will be sought from textbooks, journals, reports, publications and newspaper that are related to the study.

Methods of Data Analysis

According to Barbara (2004), described data analysis as the processes of reducing large amounts of collected data to make sense of them. Summaries of the interviews will be created to help the researcher make sense of the data that will be collected. The interview discussions will be transcribed and analyzed using content

analysis. The content analysis of the qualitative data to be gathered will be carried out and presented in a thematic form.

Major Challenges in Sustaining Integration in Europe

Before 2008, economic incorporation inside the European Union was going chiefly into one course: upwards. Regardless of provincial differences, all member states had picked up probably some economic energy and the European incorporation procedure was propelling quick (Richard, 2017). The budgetary and economic crisis brought this basic European train to a stop. However, even though its effect was to be felt all over, the crisis didn't desolate all nations to a similar degree. Though some member states were shaken yet proceeded onward, others were pushed off the rails. In the words of Richard (2017), the European Union has developed into a three-class society. A bunch of nations, for instance, Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands, Luxemburg, and Germany, settled shockingly quick. The second gathering of nations, for example, the UK, Austria or Poland, are still on their way towards complete recuperation. A third gathering, be that as it may, was struck especially hard: downturn continued extending and nations like Ireland, Spain, Portugal and Greece were confronting fast approaching circumvention. EU establishing individuals like France and Italy have been experiencing economic stagnation for a considerable length of time. The outcome thereof is that the state and economic viewpoint of various EU member nations has never been viewed as more inconsistent by EU residents than in the course of the most recent years (TNS Opinion and Social, 2015).

Different European policymakers and experts have compared the European combination venture to a bike, which must prop up forward to abstain from falling over. As of now, nonetheless, the EU faces a scope of political and economic weights including fruitful populist, disorderly ideological groups in numerous EU nations and different inward and external difficulties, which have brought up issues about the EU's future shape and character. Numerous specialists keep up that the EU will keep on accelerating along, others stress that the EU bike shows up shaky (Congressional Research Service, 2018). At the moment, the most conspicuous test for the EU is the United Kingdom's (UK's) proposed exit from the EU (known as "Brexit").

The Brexit choice and its outcome which indicated that most of the British populace needs to leave the EU puts the EU under serious scrutiny. With this choice, the UK is deserting not only 40 years of its membership. The nation is surrendering the post-World War II request and is withdrawing into personal responsibility and disconnection (Heinrich, 2017). Up until now, the EU has responded surprisingly well and kept to the guarantee 'no arrangements before notice'. The EU has discussed Brexit such that it sounds reasonable while simultaneously realizing that the missing money related commitments of the UK will be a genuine misfortune for the Union. The following two years will give us what Brexit will resemble and how it will influence the EU 27 if the Brexit move is successful (Heinrich, 2017).

Another significant test the EU is confronting is youth joblessness and how to enable youth by and large. The youth joblessness rates in the European Union are wherever in the twofold digit, in certain nations they can be seen as high as 30 to 40% (European Commission, 2017). Simultaneously the policy reactions to youth joblessness activities and different assets are extremely low.

Similarly, the progression of refugees and others looking for unpredictable access to Europe has expanded significantly: as indicated by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), more than 590,000 individuals have landed via ocean so far in 2015 more than double the number arriving at Europe along these lines in the entire of 2014. Right around 630,000 new refuge cases were made as at 2015 to EU nations (European Commission, 2015). The profile of those showing up is likewise evolving. Generally, most of the migrants looking for sections to Europe through unpredictable channels were curious people. Today, in any case, entire families are making the adventure together, now and again with older or crippled family members and regularly with exceptionally small kids: as per UNHCR, 13% of fresh debuts in 2015 were ladies and 18% kids (Victoria, 2015). The passages they take are exceptionally unique, frequently moving rapidly because of new limitations on outskirts or security worries in travel nations. Individuals are additionally going out on a limb. As indicated by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), more than 3,100 individuals have passed on in transit to Europe so far in 2019, most by far on the risky ocean venture over the Mediterranean from North Africa or Turkey. The circumstance of vagrant kids, especially those voyaging alone, is especially concerning. There are reports of unaccompanied kids vanishing after their appearance in Europe, raising feelings of trepidation that they have fallen prey to human dealers (Squires, 2019).

According to UNHCR, in 2018 over 80% of individuals landing in Europe via ocean are from the world's ten top exile delivering nations. Over half are from Syria, 15% from Afghanistan, 6% from Eritrea and 4% from Iraq – all nations in strife or crisis. The biggest number of refugee applications to the EU in 2014 – 19% – were made by Syrians. Applications from Afghans and Eritreans have additionally expanded essentially (EASO, 2018). Indeed, even before the present circumstance, EU states would in general view any enormous scale universal migration as a risk to the sway of their national and provincial fringes, their economies and their social orders. Most member states have responded appropriately, fixing controls on sporadic access to their regions and, now and again, on lawful channels (Hagen-Zanker and Mallett, 2015). These expanded

confinements have not been powerful in fighting off the convergence of refugees and different migrants; rather, they have brought about expanded stealthy endeavors to arrive at Europe, thusly presenting helpless migrants to considerably more prominent physical and different dangers.

While a great member of the analysis of Europe's administration of the present crisis is justified, member states face various certifiable difficulties in policy and useful terms in establishing an increasingly successful reaction. First, the viable test introduced by the sheer size of the crisis ought not to be thought little of. The volume of individuals moving, the decent variety of their profiles, nations of root and vulnerabilities and the dynamic idea of their courses of section and the undercover methods they regularly utilize all present an unimaginably mind-boggling and requesting circumstance (Bodewig, 2015). For Italy, Greece, Croatia, and Hungary the EU nations on the cutting edge the volume and speed of the flood have essentially overpowered their refuge frameworks when their economies are especially frail.

Furthermore, distinguishing those needing global security and the individuals who are not is unpredictable. While the displaced person status of individuals escaping Syria or different clashes is all the more obvious, others requiring universal assurance may not fit inside the legitimate meaning of an evacuee (Carling, 2015). For a considerable lot of these individuals, the line among 'constrained' and 'willful' universal migration is progressively obscured: their migration is driven by a variety of covering 'push' factors identifying with incessant neediness, imbalance, environmental debasement and the impacts of environmental change, just as 'pull' factors including genuine and saw economic and instructive open doors in Europe (EASO, 2015). The mind-boggling nature of contemporary international migration examples and drivers is displaying tremendous difficulties to existing universal, local and national legitimate and policy structures (Zetter, 2015). Despite explicit lawful insurances for refugees, the present utilization of shortsighted classes of 'constrained' and 'deliberate' migration dangers making a two-layered arrangement of assurance and help with which the rights and needs of those not qualifying as 'refugees' under the lawful definition are viably dismissed (Carling, 2015).

Thirdly, there is considerable money related expense to nations accepting enormous scale convergences of refugees and others conceded international security as far as to mix support (for example lodging, instruction, wellbeing, and other welfare administrations) (Migration Observatory, 2015). Given the moderate economic recuperation in numerous EU expresses, this isn't a cost that all are eager to tolerate. There are likewise worries about to what extent refugees will stay in Europe, and in this way to what extent they will need such help (Sutherland, 2015). Unquestionably, international patterns recommend that numerous appearances may need to stay for a considerable length of time: of the all-out international exile populace in 2014, the greater member had been uprooted for over ten years (Crawford et al., 2015). The monetary expenses of incorporation can be balanced against longer-term economic and different additions and, as experience has appeared, the prior the arrangement of satisfactory combination support, the speedier refugees can become independent, gain business and contribute charges (OECD, 2015). Be that as it may, numerous administrations are progressively worried about the quick strain on welfare administrations, saw rivalry over occupations and the conceivable effect on social attachment.

Fourthly, the gaining development of refugees and different migrants inside the EU is a key worry for some administrations. Most refugees and haven searchers have persevered through different rounds of uprooting even before their strenuous voyage to Europe, and with right on time and satisfactory mix bolster they might be bound to put resources into building an actual existence in the nation where they were officially migrated or resettled (Victoria, 2015). Unavoidably, be that as it may, some people need to proceed onward to different nations where they have family members or where they accept their economic open doors will be better, either through business or welfare support. The noteworthy disparities between guidelines of security and help gave by national shelter frameworks and reconciliation programs inside the EU intensify this.

Fifthly, the general conclusion in Europe on global migration is profoundly isolated, influencing both government approaches and combination possibilities for refugees and different migrants. Media pictures passing on the horrible dangers refugees from Syria are taking to get to Europe have to a degree changed the general population talk, yet against immigration, approaches stay a key topic in conservative politics crosswise over Europe (Erlanger, 2015). It is vague to what extent open compassion toward Syrian refugees will last, or whether it stretches out to refugees and other constrained migrants from nations with a lower profile in European media. Indeed, even governments that have been additionally inviting have discovered winning their voters around to a progressively estimated way to deal with migration an on-going test (Reuters, 2015). At long last, acquiring an intelligent methodology from each of the 28 EU individuals is demonstrating phenomenally troublesome. Even though as of late there has been developing acknowledgment of the requirement for an EU-wide reaction, the crisis has additionally exacerbated hidden political and economic divisions inside Europe. Some Central and Eastern European states have dismissed what they see as a tyrannical mentality from Germany; contentions over development over their common boundaries has reignited strains among Serbia and Croatia; and the UK has declined to take an interest in a plan to move inside the EU a further 120,000 refugees as of now in Greece, Hungary, and Italy, concurred by EU pioneers on 22 September, 2019. (European Commission, 2019)

Analyses of the European Integration

Procedures of European integration are portrayed by stages. It is considered as a traditional one where there are five phases included. It begins with the easiest local types of economic incorporation, this is trailed by facilitated commerce zone, traditions union, regular market, economic and money related union, political union and all-inclusive integration.

- Free exchange: Tariffs (an assessment forced on imported merchandise) between member nations are fundamentally diminished, some nullified inside and out. Every member nation keeps its very own duties with respect to third nations. The general objective of facilitated commerce understandings is to create economies of scale and near points of interest, which advances economic proficiency.
- Custom union: Sets common duties external among member nations, suggesting that similar levies are applied to nations; a typical exchange system is accomplished. Custom unions are especially helpful to level the aggressive playing field and address the issue of re-sends out (utilizing special duties in a single nation to enter another nation).
- Common market: Services and capital are allowed to move inside member nations, growing scale economies and relatively favorable circumstances. Notwithstanding, every national market has its very own guidelines, for example, item gauges.
- Economic union (single market): All duties are evacuated for exchange between member nations, making a uniform (single) showcase. There are likewise free developments of work, empowering laborers in a member nation can move and work in another member nation. Money related and financial approaches between member nations are fix, which infers a degree of political incorporation. A further advance concerns a money related union where typical cash is utilized, for example, with the European Union (Euro).
- Political union: Represents the conceivably most exceptional type of reconciliation with a typical government and were the sway of the member nation is essentially decreased. Just found inside country states, for example, leagues where a focal government and areas are having a level of self-governance. (Behr et al., 2011)

The diagram below shows how each of the mentioned stages is characterized.

Level of Integration	Free Trade	Customs Union	Common Market	Economic and Monetary Union	Political Union
Members agree to eliminate tariffs and non-tariffs barriers with each other but maintain their trade barriers with non-member countries. Example: European Free Trade Area	✚				
Common external tariffs. Example: European Union Common external tariffs	✚	✚			
Free movement of products, labour, and capital. Example: European Economic Community	✚	✚	✚		
Unified monetary and fiscal policy by a central authority. Example: European union today exhibits common trade, agricultural, and monetary policies.	✚	✚	✚	✚	
Perfect unification of all policies by a common organization; submersion of all separate national institutions. Example: Remains an ideal but is yet to be achieved.	✚	✚	✚	✚	✚

Source: Putu, 2014

From the above table, it tends to be seen that the more the degree of economic integration increments, thus does unpredictability. It likewise includes a lot of various guidelines, requirement and assertion instruments. Unpredictability includes some major disadvantages that may undermine the aggressiveness of the territories under economic combination since it less adaptability to national arrangements. Devolution of the European mix could happen if the unpredictability it makes is never again decided to be adequate by its individuals.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, various European policymakers and analysts have likened the European integration project to a bicycle, which must keep going forward to avoid falling over. Currently, however, the EU faces a range of political and economic pressuresincluding successful populist, anti-establishment political parties in many EU countriesand multiple internal and external challenges, which have raised questions about the EU's future shape and character. Although many experts maintain that the EU will continue to pedal along, others worry that the EU bicycle appears wobbly.

Perhaps the most prominent challenge for the EU is the United Kingdom's (UK's) expected exit from the EU (known as "Brexit"). In a public referendum in June 2016, British voters favoured leaving the EU by 52% to 48%. The UK has been engaged in withdrawal negotiations with the EU but remains a member of the EU until it formally exits the bloc (which is widely expected to occur in March 2019). In addition, the EU faces a number of other salient issues; these issues include addressing concerns about democratic backsliding in some member states (especially Poland and Hungary), managing migratory pressures and integration of newcomers, dealing with a resurgent Russia, and combating a heightened terrorism threat. Despite Brexit, the other 27 EU member states appear committed to sustaining the EU and are considering further EU reforms.

In the longer term, some analysts suggest the EU likely faces a fundamental choice between those supporting further integration as the solution to the bloc's woes and those contending that integration has gone too far and should be put on hold (or possibly even reversed in certain areas). Whereas some experts argue that "more EU" is necessary to deliver robust economic growth and ensure security, others are skeptical that national governments will be inclined to cede more authority to a Brussels bureaucracy viewed as opaque and out of touch with the problems of average citizens.All the same, if the European Union can accomplish a political union, it will make the manageability of the union's integration more grounded and thusly help in taking care of the different difficulties experienced much progressively better. At the same time, the policymakers needs to improve on policies that will help solve the problems of migration and other related crisis which was part of the reason for Brexit in the first instance.

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